



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney  
Southern District of New York

# MEMO ENDORSED

The Jacob K. Javits Federal Building  
26 Federal Plaza, 37th Floor  
New York, New York 10278

March 4, 2024

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**BY ECF**

The Honorable Valerie E. Caproni  
United States District Judge  
Southern District of New York  
Thurgood Marshall U.S. Courthouse  
40 Foley Square  
New York, New York 10007

**Re:     *United States v. Salazar-Lotero, et al., 19 Cr. 661 (PAC)***

Dear Judge Caproni:

The Government writes, with the consent of defense counsel, to provide a status update as to the remaining defendants in the above-captioned matter and to request that the Court schedule certain proceedings as to each defendant as follows:

**Franck Hernan Alvarez Espinal**

Mr. Alvarez Espinal is prepared to proceed to sentencing. Subject to the Court's availability, the parties are available the week of March 18, with a preference for Monday, March 18.

**Carlos Alberto Salazar-Lotero**

Mr. Salazar-Lotero has indicated that he is prepared to plead guilty pursuant to a plea agreement with the Government. Subject to the Court's availability, the parties are available the week of March 18, other than the afternoon of March 21.

**Gustavo Betancourt**

The Government has extended a plea offer to Mr. Betancourt, which expires on March 15, 2024. The parties are available for a status conference, either before or after the expiration of the plea offer, to discuss setting either a change-of-plea proceeding or a trial date, though Government counsel is unavailable the week of March 25.

Respectfully submitted,

DAMIAN WILLIAMS  
United States Attorney

By:   
Sheb Swett  
Assistant United States Attorneys  
(212) 637-6522

cc: All counsel (by ECF)

The Court will hold a change-of-plea hearing for Mr. Salazar-Lotero on **Monday, March 18, 2024, at 2:30 P.M.**

The Court will hold a status conference for Mr. Bentacourt on **Monday, March 18, 2024, at 3:00 P.M.**, at which the Court will either hold a change-of-plea hearing or set a schedule for motions and a trial schedule in April or May 2024.

Mr. Espinal will be sentenced on **Monday, March 18, 2024, at 3:15 P.M.**

All proceedings will take place in Courtroom 443 of the Thurgood Marshall Courthouse, 40 Foley Square, New York, New York, 10007.

SO ORDERED.



03/04/2024

HON. VALERIE CAPRONI  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE